

CLAIMS

1-16. (Canceled).

17. (Currently amended) A method of making financial transaction data available electronically, the method comprising:

(a) receiving financial transaction data for a plurality of distinct financial transactions, each financial transaction relating to an investment in a security or mutual fund;

(b) determining a unique identifier for each distinct financial transaction and a client associated with each distinct financial transaction;

(c) determining, for each of the plurality of distinct financial transactions as a function of each its respective unique identifier, whether the associated client has consented to receiving data for the respective financial transaction data electronically, the determining comprising comparing the unique identifier to a collection of identifiers; and

(d) if it is determined in (c) that the associated client has consented to receiving data for a the respective financial transaction data electronically, making the data for the respective financial transaction data available to the associated client electronically.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein step (d) comprises making the respective financial transaction data available to the associated client via the Internet.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising:

(e) suppressing transmission of a paper-based version of the consented respective financial data determined in step (d).

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the unique identifier comprises at least one of:
a client identifier;
an account identifier;
a document type identifier;
a customer service representative identifier;

a document identifier;
a consent type identifier; and
a request type identifier.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein step (c) comprises:
comparing each unique identifier associated with the received financial transaction data with pre-stored identifiers.
22. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein step (d) comprises:
providing the associated client with a URL link to the respective financial transaction data.
23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the respective financial transaction data is in an HTML format.
24. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein step (d) comprises:
sending an e-mail message directly to an e-mail address of the associated client,
wherein the e-mail message comprises the retrieved respective financial transaction data.
25. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the e-mail message comprises an image file representative of the respective financial transaction data.
26. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the e-mail message comprises a data file for incorporation into a financial software program.
27. (Original) The method of claim 24, further comprising:
maintaining a record of each sent e-mail message that does not successfully reach its intended e-mail destination; and
sending a paper-based representation of the financial transaction data associated with each unsuccessfully sent e-mail message.

28. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising:
under control of a client system:
displaying information identifying at least one financial transaction type;
in response to an entry from a user, associating one of consent or non-consent to each
at least one transaction type; and
sending a consent change request representing the entry from the user; and
under control of a server system:
receiving the consent change request;
confirming the consent change request is authorized; and
storing the associated one of consent or non-consent with the respective transaction
type.
29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the consent change request comprises an
indication of an account and a password and the confirming step comprises:
comparing the password in the consent change request to a pre-stored password associated
with the user.
30. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the client system and the server system
communicate with one another over a secure connection via the Internet.
31. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the client system and the server system
communicate with one another over a secure connection via the Internet.
32. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein step (d) comprises:
under control of a client system:
sending a request to view the respective financial transaction data, the request comprising a
client identifier; and
under control of a server system:

receiving the request from the client system,
retrieving, as a function of the client identifier, the respective financial transaction data; and
providing a link to the retrieved respective financial transaction data; and
under control of the client system, displaying the retrieved respective financial transaction data.

33. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein step (d) comprises:

sending an e-mail message directly to an e-mail address of the associated client,
wherein the e-mail message comprises a URL link to the respective financial transaction data.

34. (Currently amended) system for making financial transaction data available electronically, the system comprising:

(a) means for receiving financial transaction data for a plurality of distinct financial transactions, each financial transaction relating to an investment in a security or mutual fund;

(b) first means for determining a unique identifier for each distinct financial transaction and a client associated with each distinct financial transaction;

(c) second means for determining, for each of the plurality of distinct financial transactions as a function of each its respective unique identifier, whether the associated client has consented to receiving data for the respective financial transaction data electronically, the determining comprising comparing the unique identifier to a collection of identifiers; and

(d) means for, if it is determined by the second means that the associated client has consented to receiving data for a financial transaction electronically, making data for the respective financial transaction data available to the associated client electronically, if it is determined that the associated client has consented to receiving the respective financial transaction data.

35. (Original) The system of claim 34 further comprising means for making the respective financial transaction data available to the associated client electronically via the Internet

36. (Original) The system of claim 34, further comprising:
(e) means for suppressing transmission of a paper-based version of the consented respective financial data.
37. (Original) The system of claim 36, wherein the unique identifier comprises at least one of:
a client identifier;
an account identifier;
a document type identifier;
a customer service representative identifier;
a document identifier;
a consent type identifier; and
a request type identifier.
38. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the second determining means comprise:
means for comparing each unique identifier associated with the received financial transaction data with pre-stored identifiers.
39. (Original) The system of claim 35, wherein the means for making the respective financial transaction data available to the associated client via the Internet comprise:
means for providing the associated client with a URL link to the respective financial transaction data.
40. (Original) The system of claim 39, wherein the respective financial transaction data is in an HTML format.
41. (Original) The system of claim 35, wherein the means for making the respective financial transaction data available to the associated client via the Internet comprise:

means for sending an e-mail message directly to an e-mail address of the associated client, wherein the e-mail message comprises the retrieved respective financial transaction data.

42. (Original) The system of claim 41, wherein the e-mail message comprises an image file representative of the respective financial transaction data.

43. (Original) The system of claim 41, wherein the e-mail message comprises a data file for incorporation into a financial software program.

44. (Original) The system of claim 41, further comprising:

means for maintaining a record of each sent e-mail message that does not successfully reach its intended e-mail destination; and

means for sending a paper-based representation of the financial transaction data associated with each unsuccessfully sent e-mail message.

45. (Original) The system of claim 34, further comprising:

a client system operative to :

display information identifying at least one financial transaction type;

in response to an entry from a user, associate one of consent or non-consent to each at least one transaction type; and

send a consent change request representing the entry from the user; and

a server system operative to :

receive the consent change request;

confirm the consent change request is authorized; and

store the associated one of consent or non-consent with the respective transaction type.

46. (Original) The system of claim 45, wherein the consent change request comprises an indication of an account and a password and the server system is further operative to:

compare the password in the consent change request to a pre-stored password associated with the user.

47. (Original) The system of claim 45, wherein the client system and the server system communicate with one another over a secure connection via the Internet.

48. (Original) The system of claim 46, wherein the client system and the server system communicate with one another over a secure connection via the Internet.

49. (Original) The system of claim 35, wherein the means for making the respective financial transaction data available to the associated client via the Internet comprise:

a client system to send a request to view the respective financial transaction data, the request comprising a client identifier; and

a server system operative to:

receive the request from the client system,

retrieve, as a function of the client identifier, the respective financial transaction data;

and

provide a link to the retrieved respective financial transaction data; and

wherein, the client system displays the retrieved respective financial transaction data.

50. (Original) The system of claim 35, wherein the means for making the respective financial transaction data available to the associated client via the Internet comprise:

means for sending an e-mail message directly to an e-mail address of the associated client,

wherein the e-mail message comprises a URL link to the respective financial transaction data.

51-58. (Canceled)

59. (Currently amended) A computer program product comprising:

a computer-readable medium;

computer program instructions, wherein the computer program instructions, when executed by a computer, direct the computer to perform a method of making financial transaction data available via a communications channel, the method comprising:

(a) receiving financial transaction data for a plurality of distinct financial transactions, each financial transaction relating to an investment in a security or mutual fund;

(b) determining a unique identifier for each distinct financial transaction and a client associated with each distinct financial transaction;

(c) determining, for each of the plurality of distinct financial transactions as a function of each its respective unique identifier, whether the associated client has consented to receiving data for the respective financial transaction data via the communications channel, the determining comprising comparing the unique identifier to a collection of identifiers; and

(d) if it is determined in (c) that the associated client has consented to receiving data for a the respective financial transaction data via the communications channel, making the data for the respective financial transaction data available to the associated client via the communications channel.

60. (Original) The computer program product of claim 59, further comprising:

(e) suppressing transmission of a paper-based version of the consented respective financial data determined in step (d).

61. (Original) The computer program product of claim 60, wherein the unique identifier comprises at least one of:

a client identifier;

an account identifier;

a document type identifier;

a customer service representative identifier;

a document identifier;

a consent type identifier; and

a request type identifier.

62. (Original) The computer program product of claim 61, wherein step (c) comprises:
comparing each unique identifier associated with the received financial transaction data with
pre-stored identifiers.
63. (Original) The computer program product of claim 59, wherein step (d) comprises:
providing the associated client with a URL link to the respective financial transaction data.
64. (Original) The computer program product of claim 63, wherein the respective financial
transaction data is in an HTML format.
65. (Original) The computer program product of claim 59, wherein step (d) comprises:
sending an e-mail message directly to an e-mail address of the associated client,
wherein the e-mail message comprises the retrieved respective financial transaction data.
66. (Original) The computer program product of claim 65, wherein the e-mail message
comprises an image file representative of the respective financial transaction data.
67. (Original) The computer program product of claim 65, wherein the e-mail message
comprises a data file for incorporation into a financial software program.
68. (Original) The computer program product of claim 65, further comprising:
maintaining a record of each sent e-mail message that does not successfully reach its
intended e-mail destination; and
sending a paper-based representation of the financial transaction data associated with each
unsuccessfully sent e-mail message.

69. (Original) The computer program product of claim 59, further comprising:
under control of a client system:
displaying information identifying at least one financial transaction type;
in response to an entry from a user, associating one of consent or non-consent to each
at least one transaction type; and
sending a consent change request representing the entry from the user; and
under control of a server system:
receiving the consent change request;
confirming the consent change request is authorized; and
storing the associated one of consent or non-consent with the respective transaction
type.
70. (Original) The computer program product of claim 69, wherein the consent change request
comprises an indication of an account and a password and the confirming step comprises:
comparing the password in the consent change request to a pre-stored password associated
with the user.
71. (Original) The computer program product of claim 69, wherein the client system and the
server system communicate with one another over a secure connection via the Internet.
72. (Original) The computer program product of claim 70, wherein the client system and the
server system communicate with one another over a secure connection via the Internet.
73. (Original) The computer program product of claim 59, wherein step (d) comprises:
under control of a client system:
sending a request to view the respective financial transaction data, the request comprising a
client identifier; and
under control of a server system:
receiving the request from the client system,

retrieving, as a function of the client identifier, the respective financial transaction data; and

providing a link to the retrieved respective financial transaction data; and

under control of the client system, displaying the retrieved respective financial transaction data.

74. (Original) The computer program product of claim 59, wherein step (d) comprises: sending an e-mail message directly to an e-mail address of the associated client, wherein the e-mail message comprises a URL link to the respective financial transaction data.

75-82. (Canceled)

83. (Currently amended) A system for making financial transaction data available via the Internet, the system comprising:

(a) a financial transaction data processor to receive financial transaction data for a plurality of distinct financial transactions, each financial transaction relating to an investment in a security or mutual fund;

(b) an identifier processor, coupled to the financial transaction data processor, to determine a unique identifier for each distinct financial transaction and a client associated with each distinct financial transaction;

(c) a consent processor, coupled to the identifier processor, to determine, for each of the plurality of distinct financial transactions as a function of each its respective unique identifier, whether the associated client has consented to receiving data for the respective financial transaction data electronically, the determining comprising comparing the unique identifier to a collection of identifiers; and

(d) a processor, coupled to the consent processor, to, if it is determined by the consent processor that the associated client has consented to receiving data for a financial transaction electronically, make the data for the respective financial transaction data available to the associated

client electronically. ~~if it is determined that the associated client has consented to receiving the respective financial transaction data.~~

84. (Original) The system of claim 83 further comprising an interface processor to make the respective financial transaction data available to the associated client electronically via the Internet.

85. (Original) The system of claim 83, further comprising:

(e) a processor to suppress transmission of a paper-based version of the consented respective financial data.

86. (Original) The system of claim 85, wherein the unique identifier comprises at least one of:
a client identifier;
an account identifier;
a document type identifier;
a customer service representative identifier;
a document identifier;
a consent type identifier; and
a request type identifier.

87. (Original) The system of claim 83, wherein the consent processor compares each unique identifier associated with the received financial transaction data with pre-stored identifiers.

88. (Original) The system of claim 86, wherein the interface processor provides the associated client with a URL link to the respective financial transaction data.

89. (Original) The system of claim 88, wherein the respective financial transaction data is in an HTML format.

90. (Original) The system of claim 84, wherein the interface processor comprises:

an e-mail processor to send an e-mail message directly to an e-mail address of the associated client,

wherein the e-mail message comprises the retrieved respective financial transaction data.

91. (Original) The system of claim 90, wherein the e-mail message comprises an image file representative of the respective financial transaction data.

92. (Original) The system of claim 90, wherein the e-mail message comprises a data file for incorporation into a financial software program.

93. (Original) The system of claim 90, further comprising:

a record processor to maintain a record of each sent e-mail message that does not successfully reach its intended e-mail destination; and

a system to send a paper-based representation of the financial transaction data associated with each unsuccessfully sent e-mail message.

94. (Original) The system of claim 83, further comprising:

a client system operative to :

display information identifying at least one financial transaction type;

in response to an entry from a user, associate one of consent or non-consent to each at least one transaction type; and

send a consent change request representing the entry from the user; and

a server system operative to :

receive the consent change request;

confirm the consent change request is authorized; and

store the associated one of consent or non-consent with the respective transaction

type.

95. (Original) The system of claim 94, wherein the consent change request comprises an indication of an account and a password and the server system is further operative to:
compare the password in the consent change request to a pre-stored password associated with the user.
96. (Original) The system of claim 94, wherein the client system and the server system communicate with one another over a secure connection via the Internet.
97. (Original) The system of claim 95, wherein the client system and the server system communicate with one another over a secure connection via the Internet.
98. (Original) The system of claim 84, wherein the interface processor comprises:
a client system to send a request to view the respective financial transaction data, the request comprising a client identifier; and
a server system operative to:
receive the request from the client system,
retrieve, as a function of the client identifier, the respective financial transaction data;
and
provide a link to the retrieved respective financial transaction data; and
wherein, the client system displays the retrieved respective financial transaction data.
99. (Original) The system of claim 84, wherein the interface processor sends an e-mail message directly to an e-mail address of the associated client,
wherein the e-mail message comprises a URL link to the respective financial transaction data.
100. (Currently amended) A method of providing financial transaction data for at least one financial transaction electronically to a user, the method comprising:

obtaining consent from the user to provide ~~the~~ data for a particular type of financial transaction data electronically; ~~and~~

receiving information on a plurality of distinct financial transactions, each having a type;
and

if information for a financial transaction of the particular type is received, providing data for the financial transaction ~~the financial transaction data~~ electronically to the user;

wherein each financial transaction relates to an investment in a security or mutual fund.

101. (Original) The method of claim 100, wherein the financial transaction data is provided to the user via the Internet.

102. (Original) The method of claim 101, wherein the financial transaction data is sent as part of an e-mail message.

103. (Original) The method of claim 102, wherein the e-mail message comprises a link directing the user to the provided financial transaction data.

104. (Original) The method of claim 100 wherein the user's consent is received via the Internet.

105. (Original) The method of claim 103, further comprising:

the user receiving the e-mail message;

the user accessing a web site on the Internet on which the link is located;

the user validating the user's identity by submitting identifying information to the web site;

a process running on a server system receiving the identifying information and confirming the identity of the user; and

the process on the server providing the user access to the information via the link.

106. (Original) The method of claim 105, further comprising:

the process on the server accessing, as a function of the link, a second server to provide the information to the user.

107. (Previously presented) A method of obtaining and storing consent, from a user, to receive financial transaction data for at least one financial transaction electronically, the method comprising:

under control of a client system:

sending a consent message with respect to the financial transaction data;

under control of a first server system:

receiving the consent message from the client system;

correlating the consent message to account information of the user and generating consented account information data;

sending the consented account information data;

under control of a second server system:

receiving the consented account information data from the first server;

determining a unique user identifier from the consented account information; and

storing the consented account information as a function of the unique user identifier;

wherein each financial transaction relates to an investment in a security or mutual fund.

108. (Original) The method as recited in claim 107, wherein the client system, the first server and the second server communicate with one another via the Internet.

109-113. (Canceled)

114. (Currently amended) A method of sending financial transaction data electronically to a user, the method comprising:

under control of a first server system:

(A) receiving financial transaction data for at least one financial transaction, each financial transaction having a type and relating to an investment in a security or mutual fund;

- (B) identifying a user associated with the received financial transaction data;
- (B1) storing the received financial transaction data as a function of the identified user;
- (C) determining if the identified user has consented to receiving the data for a particular type of financial transaction data electronically;
- (D) when it has been determined that the user has consented to receiving data for the particular type of financial transaction electronically, sending the received data for the particular type of financial transaction data electronically to the user.

115. (Original) The method of claim 114, wherein step (D) comprises:

formatting an e-mail message to include a reference to the received financial transaction data; and

sending the formatted e-mail message to the user.

116. (Original) The method of claim 115, wherein the formatted e-mail message comprises a URL link pointing to the stored received financial transaction data.

117. (Original) The method of claim 116, wherein the URL link includes a pointer to a second server.

118. (Original) The method of claim 117, further comprising:

under control of a client system:

receiving the e-mail message; and

clicking on the URL link; and

under control of the second server:

receiving an indication from the client system that the URL link is being accessed;

validating the user;

identifying the stored financial transaction data location from the URL link; and

when the user has been validated, directing the user to the financial transaction data stored on the first server.